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July 28, 1958

Brigadier General Andrew J. Goodpaster
Staff Secretary
The White House

Dear Andy:

You may recall that at a recent NSC meeting the President expressed interest in the precise figures covering Iceland's exports to the Soviet Bloc, particularly the export of fish and fish products, which accounts for a great bulk of the total exports.

Attached is a brief memorandum which gives the pertinent figures, which the President might wish to note.

Faithfully yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosure '001-3920-58 - Confidential
undated Memo for DCI from a D/C,
Subj: USSR and Soviet Bloc
Purchases of Fish from
Iceland (1957.)

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT : USSR and Soviet Bloc Purchases of Fish
From Iceland 1957

Of Iceland's total exports during 1957, valued at approximately \$60.5 million, fish and fish products accounted for 92.4 percent, or almost \$56 million. During 1957 the Soviet Bloc took 33.5 percent of Iceland's total exports, compared to 29.9 percent in 1956. Purchases by the USSR itself amounted to \$13.0 or 21.6 percent of Iceland's total exports. The United Kingdom was Iceland's second largest market, with purchases reaching a total value of \$5.7 million, and the United States third at \$5.6 million.

The largest single export item was frozen fish: 57,088 metric tons with an F.O.B. value of \$20,000,000. The USSR took 31,415 metric tons valued at \$10.2 million, the United States 10,985 metric tons valued at almost \$4.3 million, and East Germany and Czechoslovakia together took 11,100 metric tons valued at \$4.2 million. Salt herring was the second largest export item to the Bloc. The Soviet Union, Poland and East Germany took 15,829 metric tons out of a total of 26,049 metric tons exported. It had a value of \$3.1 million. The

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USSR itself took 14,073 metric tons valued at \$2.8 million.
Finland (non-bloc) purchased 7,453 tons, worth \$2.2 million.

Disappointed over the failure of the April Geneva Conference on the Law of the Sea, the Icelandic government announced on 2 June that the fisheries conservation limit would be extended from the present four nautical miles beyond the present base lines to 12 nautical miles and that the new regulations would become effective 1 September. According to the regulations issued on 30 June, only Icelandic trawlers are to be allowed to fish within the outer belt of eight miles, subject to restrictions yet to be announced; and within the original four mile limit all trawler fishing will be prohibited. The unilateral announcement of a 12 mile limit has drawn official protests from Great Britain, West Germany, France, Belgium and Sweden.

HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON
Assistant Director
Current Intelligence

cc: DD/CI